

SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

Published by the Hill Country Intergroup
1825 Fortview Rd. Suite 104 Austin, Texas 78704



Volume 13, Issue 12

December 2013

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The Hill Country Intergroup is sad to announce that our manager Clint R. has issued his resignation effective 12/31/2013. He has graciously stated that he will stay until a new manager has been selected and trained.

The Hill Country Intergroup will miss him and wishes him the best.

The board will put the job requirements out as soon as possible.

The Hopeful Side of Grief

At this moment, 32 years sober, I feel that I am one of the most fortunate members of AA. I buried two daughters in a period of nine months as a result of auto accidents, Honour and Erin, capable, redheaded young women, never reached the age of 23, I am not unique; I know other members have lost children and gone on. I survived a stroke that paralyzed my left side, and I was able to learn everything again - walking, eating, driving, and most important, how to pray and be grateful. Dr. Paul was not out of his tree when he wrote in his story in the Big Book, "Nothing happens in God's world by mistake." The night Erin died I hurt so; I knew I must make a meeting. Another member was there crying. When I shared my loss I learned that he also had lost his daughter that very day. He and his wife were away from home when they got the news. His wife stayed at the motel, and he came to a meeting. God showed us we could carry the message; we were not being punished. I was put in the right place, not by accident, but to share my feelings with another suffering alcoholic. I knew that crying would not change the reality of that day. The light of wisdom that comes from working the program showed be that crying changes nothing. I knew I belonged in meeting, turning my life over, expressing my anger and sharing with other alcoholics. I probably owed my daughter amends I would never be able to make. Through prayer and meditation I would have a chance to remain sane and regain purpose. Only by action in the steps and the divine magic of one alcoholic talking with another alcoholic could I find the relief that is called serenity. Seventy plus years old, the program still has the power to answer all our problems. A drunk fell off a cliff and grabbed a bush and ask God to save him, promising God that he would change. God said, "Yes, now let go of the bush." The drunk asked if there was anyone else who could help him. That's the deal. God can help if we have the faith to turn it over; nothing but that. Let it go no matter how scary. Faith and nothing but. Pat L. Astoria, Ore

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December History www.aa.org

1995

With approval of the General Service Board, G.S.O. New York launches a site on the World Wide Web on December 22, 1995. With a click, users can now instantaneously access information about the Fellowship in English, Spanish, and French.
(AA World Services Archives)

**Hill Country
Intergroup
Representatives
Meeting
2nd Monday
Of the
Month
6:30 PM
Covenant
Presbyterian
Church
Education Bldg.**

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Office -

Dan H., Claire C., Fred J., Billy C., Glenn S., John B., Leslie Ann D., Lizz R., Pat F., Charles M., Wendy F., Marty C., James B., Mary L., Norma A., Robert B., Jonathan J., Jamie D., Marla K., Marilyn C., Murdo M.,

Hotline -

Randy R., Georgetown Group, Linda G., Mark K., Gordon K., Darrin A., Hope Group, Sam C., Jerry T., Veronica V., Mary Jo B., Rule 62 Group, Primary Purpose Group (Austin), Janna H., Chris F., Dan B., Mary T., Bouldin Group, Tom K., Grant C., Dave E., Marty C.,

NOVEMBER DONATIONS

Westlake - \$1000

Into Action (Lockhart) - \$10

7th St. Sisters - \$268

Back to Basics (Marble Falls) - \$100

Newcomers Group (Kingsland) - \$25

Sunset Canyon - \$100

Allandale - \$320

Rule 62 - \$101

Bridge to Shore - \$351

Burnet Noon - \$300

Into Service Group - \$68

Men's Literature (defunct) - \$20 \$2,663

Deaf Access Committee Donations

Desire to Stop - \$25

7th Street Sisters - \$67

Allandale - \$50

Rule 62 - \$101

Bridge to Shore - \$150 \$393



HCIA Birthday Club

*NOVEMBER
BIRTH DAYS
2013*

*No Birthdays This
Month.*

*Become a Birthday
Club Member....
Contact HCI To Join*



Forgiveness

When I was preparing to make my list in the eighth step I realized that there was more than just making columns of the immediate, maybe's, and never. The step says that we have to become willing to make these amends, and I did know that meant that I would have to forgive them in order for the process to begin. I know today that forgiveness is act of love and tolerance as we humans make mistakes. I know for me personally this idea of growing up in public has been a difficult one to say the least; I still find that things come out of my mouth before I have a chance to get them back. I then have to practice the tenth step in order to make things right. I was told early on in sobriety that I could not ask for forgiveness unless I could practice it first. This is the time of year when we must ask ourselves if there is anyone that we have in our life that truly needs forgiveness, and we should do our best to practice giving that forgiveness to them. I used to here when I was young that God forgives those that ask, and that was all you had to go. I used that information as though I could do anything that I wanted and as long as I ask God to forgive me everything would be fine. I know today that there is more to forgiveness than just asking. I know that I have to try and make things right the best that I can, and I have to stop doing whatever it was that put me in the position to ask. I also know today that I when I am ask to forgive it is not for me to judge anyone it is only to show them the same tolerance and patience that I have sought for myself. I hope that I am able to be the person that God wants me to be today.

Robert C.

AA Thought For The Month

Suggestions

I remember my sponsor's answer when I told him that the steps were "suggested". He replied that they are "suggested" in the same way that, if you were to jump out of an airplane with a parachute, it is "suggested" that you pull the ripcord to save your life. So I try to remember daily that I have a whole program of recovery based on all Twelve of the "suggested" Steps.

Daily Reflections, p. 344

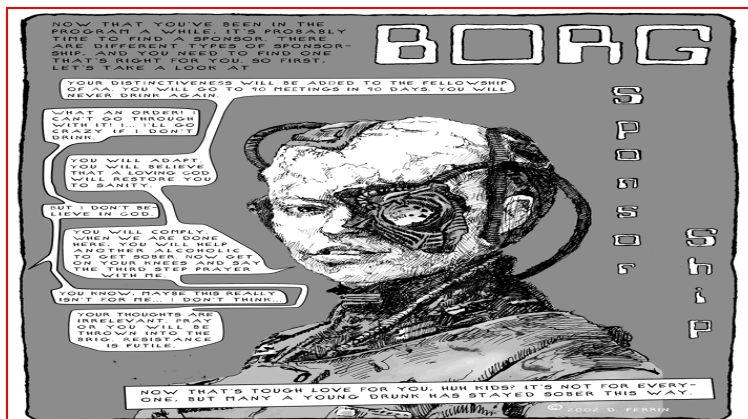


Christmas Ornaments



AA HUMOR SECTION

You Might Be An Alcoholic If:
 Your twin sons are named Barley and Hops.
 You fall off the floor.
 The damned pink elephant followed me home again.
 The shrubbery's drunk from frequent watering.
 Your only friends are Jack, Johnny, and Jose.
 I'm as jobber as a sudge!
 You consider yourself a workaholic, because every time you go to work, you want to have a beer!
 I slept with that damned pink elephant again.
 You've fallen and you can't (don't want to) get up.





“Cling to the thought that, in God’s hands, the dark past is the greatest possession you have—the key to life and happiness for others. With it you can avert death and misery for them”.
Bill W.

Capital Of Texas Conference 2014

Get ready for Austin’s Conference. The first ever Capital Of Texas Conference will be held in August 15-17, 2014.

Future Fundraising Events: Every First Friday is Trivia Night at Any Lengths Group 11:15 PM

Holiday Dinner and Talent Show at Balcones Country Club on 12/20/2013 at 7:00 PM. \$40 per person. Pay online at CTC website. Talent needed for show....

For info email: holidayshow@capitaloftexasconference.org

Registration is available online at the website. You can also download the registration flyer and mail it in.

Check the CTC Website Or HCI Website for more information.

Monthly Committee meetings are held the 4th Sunday of the Month at different the 12&12 foundation.

2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.

Next Committee Meeting 1/26/2014

The Conference Website Address:

www.capitaloftexasconference.org

Come visit our website and if you have any feed back please email the Website Coordinator.

webmaster@capitaloftexasconference.org

THEME OF CONFERENCE IS:

“We Will Be Amazed...”



Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.

1



Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.

2



Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.

3



Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes—postpone everything else until you've called an A.A.

4



Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations

given by groups in your area, and go. If you're timid, take someone newer than you are.

5



Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.

6



If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.

7



Don't think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an "important date" you have to keep.

8



Worship in your own way.

9



Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.

10



Don't start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember—"one day at a time."

11



Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts—but this year, you can give love.

12



"Having had a . . ." No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.

HILL COUNTRY
INTERGROUP



If you would like to help with the HCI Newsletter or you would like to volunteer at the Intergroup office you can contact us at (512) 444-0071. There are many opportunities for service work. You can also sign up to be on the 12th step list. Volunteering through the intergroup is a great experience. The Sobriety pages is always looking for articles. Tell your story or pick a topic.

hcieditor@hotmail.com

Upcoming Events For December

December 6th - CTC Trivia Night at Any Lengths Group!

December 7th - District 3B/3C Treatment Committee Workshop!

December 7th - Allandale Group - Holiday Party!

December 12th - 68th Anniversary of AA in Austin!

December 14th - Lost Pines Speaker Meeting!

December 14th - Solutions Group (Burnet, TX) Eat N Speak

December 20th - CTC Dinner and Holiday Show!

December 21st - Florence Renaissance Group Speaker Meeting!

December 21st - Austin Citywide Speaker Meeting!

December 25th - Northland Group Potluck Christmas!

December 31st - Sober New Year's Eve Bash!

January 10-12 2014 - District 27 Jamboree "Gift of the Three Legacies"!

January 10-12 - 52nd South East Texas Area Convention!

January 11 - Lost Pines Speaker Meeting!

January 17-19 - Sobriety Under the Sun!

February 21-23 - Area 68 CFC Conference!

February 28 - March 2nd - 23rd Chisholm Trail Convention!

For more information on these or any upcoming events go to the Hill Country Intergroup Website.

www.austinaa.org

You will find flyers with all the pertinent information for the event and a map to the location.

